

28 April 2008

10,000 YOUTHS TO PLEDGE AT AUSCHWITZ:

No More Genocide in our Lifetime

(WARSAW, POLAND)- On Thursday, May 1st, as the world commemorates the international day for memorializing the more than six million victims of the Holocaust, a gathering at Auschwitz will serve as the setting for the launch of a world-wide campaign aimed at ending genocide in all-forms.

The declaration will be signed onto by 10,000 of the participants in the 2008 March of the Living, a special gathering at the concentration camp in Poland where over 1.5 million Jews were killed by the Nazis before the camp was liberated in January of 2005.

The "March of the Living Pledge" commits each individual, the majority of whom are 16-22 years old, "to fight every form of discrimination manifested against any religion, nationality or ethnic group... After the Shoah the promise of 'Never Again' was proclaimed. We pledge to create a world where Never Again will become a reality for the Jewish People and, indeed, for all people. This is our solemn pledge to the Jewish People, to those who came before us, to those of our generation, and to those who will follow in future generations."

The March of the Living, founded in 1988, has brought over 150,000 people to Poland to serve as first-hand witnesses to the evil imposed by the Nazis and to educate themselves of the continued need to combat anti-Semitism and xenophobia. Following the May 1st event, a global effort will be underway to enlist the support of all 150,000 of the March of the Living alumni to publicly state their condemnation of genocide- both past and present.

According to March organizers, there is no setting on earth more appropriate to launch such a historic effort than the place that is the world's most infamous symbol of man's inhumanity to fellow man.

The March of the Living ceremony will take place at 1:00 pm on May 1st and traces the 3-kilometer voyage from the concentration camp at Auschwitz to the adjacent complex at Birkenau where Jews were systematically murdered in giant gas chambers. In recognition of the celebration of Israel's Sixtieth Anniversary, the program will be led by Brigadier General Gabi Ashkenazi, the Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Force. General Ashkenazi will be accompanied by the US ambassador to Poland, Hon. Victor Ashe.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND/OR TO COVER THE MAY 1st EVENT:
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